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PAGE 01 MARACA 00277 272200Z
ACTION ARA-01

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| INFO | LOG-00 | CIAE-00 | C-01 | DODE-00 | DS-00 | HA-09 | H-01 |
| | INRE-00 | INR-01 | L-03 | ADS-00 | NSAE-00 | NSCE-00 | OMB-01 |
| | PA-01 | PM-02 | PRS-01 | P-01 | SNP-00 | SP-00 | SS-00 |
| | TRSE-00 | T-01 | USIE-00 | ASDS-01 | /024W | | |

----------7F8F25 272208Z /38

R 272203Z NOV 92
FM AMCONSUL MARACAIBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC, IMMEDIATE 3410
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 273

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BOGOTA PLEASE PASS TO BARRANQUILLA

E.O. 12356:N/A
TAGS:PGOV, ASEC, VE
SUBJECT: HOODED PROTESTERS SHATTER MARACAIBO CALM

REFTER: MARACAIBO 2?5

1. STUDENTS AND CRIMINAL ELEMENTS ARE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF UNCERTAINTY FOLLOWING THE COUP ATTEMPT TO CAUSE TROUBLE IN MARACAIBO. 200 HOODED PROTESTERS ARE FACING OFF WITH UNITS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD AND THE ZULIA STATE POLICY IN FRONT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ZULIA. SMALL GROUPS OF HOODED

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PAGE 02 MARACA 00277 272200Z
PROTESTERS ARE IN THE STREETS OF DOWNTOWN MARACAIBO AS OF NOON.

2. GENERAL ROJAS SALAZAR, HEAD OF THE NATIONAL GUARD IN REGION 3 (FALCON AND ZULIA) ANNOUNCED THAT THE NATIONAL GUARD WOULD PATROL THE STREETS OF DOWNTOWN MARACAIBO TO PRESERVE ORDER AND PREVENT CRIMINAL ELEMENTS FROM TAKING ADVANTAGE OF CONFUSION IN THE WAKE OF THE COUP ATTEMPT.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J OLSON
DATE/CASE ID: 19 OCT 2006 200503206

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3. COMMENT: STUDENTS AND TROUBLEMAKERS WASTED LITTLE TIME IN TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE COUP ATTEMPT. THE TROUBLE IN ZULIA HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH DISLOYAL MILITARY OF POLICE OR POLICE AUTHORITIES. IN FACT, GENERAL ESQUEDA TORRES, COMMANDER OF THE REGIONAL ARMY COMMAND IN MARACAIBO, CALLED P.O. TWICE SAYING THAT FROM A MILITARY POINT OF VIEW THERE WAS NO PROBLEM AND THEN ASKED FOR SPECIAL VISA TREATMENT FOR A RELATIVE. END COMMENT.
JENKS

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